

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph on Page 19, lines 4 - 18 with the following marked-up replacement paragraph:

-- A user of the present invention may connect his computer to a server using a wireline connection, or a wireless connection. Wireline connections are those that use physical media such as cables and telephone lines, whereas wireless connections use media such as satellite links, radio frequency waves, and infrared waves. Many connection techniques can be used with these various media, such as: using the computer's modem to establish a connection over a telephone line; using a LAN card such as Token Ring or Ethernet; using a cellular modem to establish a wireless connection; etc. The user's computer may be any type of computer processor, including laptop, handheld or mobile computers; vehicle-mounted devices; desktop computers; mainframe computers; etc., having processing (and optionally communication) capabilities. The remote server and the gateway machines, similarly, can be one of any number of different types of computer which have processing and communication capabilities. These techniques are well known in the art, and the hardware devices and software which enable their use are readily available. Hereinafter, the user's computer will be referred to equivalently as a "workstation" or "client", and use of any of these terms or the term "server" or "gateway" refers to any of the types of computing devices described above. --

Please replace the paragraph that begins on Page 30, line 17 and carries over to Page 31, line 5 with the following marked-up replacement paragraph:

-- The centralized access control techniques of the present invention provide a solution

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that scales very efficiently. If some number of hosts " n " in one network cloud wanted to communicate pairwise with some number of ~~[[host]]~~ hosts " m " in another network cloud, a conventional IPSec solution would mandate the establishment of $(m * n)$ pairs of unidirectional IPSec security associations, one for each pair of communicating hosts. When the present invention is used, however, only $(n + m + 1)$ pairs of unidirectional IPSec security associations are required (" n " to connect each host in the first cloud to a local boundary device, " m " to connect each host in the second cloud to another local boundary device, and 1 to connect the two boundary devices). —

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